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Mission -

of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

in Cuba. -

Its History. In the Fall of 1870. the Rt. Rev. Henry B. Whipple, D.D. Bishop of Minnesota on account of excessive labor and exposure in that Northern Climate, was constrained to seek relief by a visit during the winter to one of the West India Islands., and being providentially detained in Havana he witnessed scenes and became acquainted with facts, which moved to performance of the sympathies of his Christian heart. First. perhaps the destitution of some Eight or ten Thousand Foreign Residents of all religious instruction. Few are to care for their souls or to perform, at frequent funerals the sacred offices of the Church. He soon discovered also, that they were almost equally destitute of suitable hospital attendance during their sickness. Upon his return the reports he bore moved many a sympathetic heart and none more deeply than that of the Right Reverend William R. Whittingham. the Venerable Bishop of Maryland.

Interviews with him. introduced the name of the Rev. Edward Kenney as a suitable person, whom he consent, to follow up

the casual visit of the Bishop by a more prolonged Residence in Havana. His letters from time to time, and his frequent visits to this Country during the last six years, show that his whole heart and soul have been devoted to this work. and have kept the friends of Missions well informed of the perils, sufferings and successes which have attended and crowned his efforts.

The Aims of this Mission.—

It is, to supply the deficiencies so ably deplored by Bishop Whipple. attendance upon the sick and dying and the decent and sacred interment of the dead.—

In this part of his work the Rev. Mr. Kenney has been aided by the hearty cooperation of Foreign Consuls and Merchants and also by wealthy native Cubans.— It has grown to such large dimensions, and such wide distant fields are constantly opening that the amount of pecuniary aid likely to be realized can supply the need.—

This purely humanitarian aspect of the Work would meet with a ready response were it not that precisely similar claims are always clamorous at home.— But happily in this case, as in all similar cases, no good Work in any direction, is ever

undertaken from purely religious motives, prompted by the love of Christ, but what, if thwarted in one direction, does but open in a more promising direction, perhaps upon a higher plane.

The opportunities thus afforded of reaching under the most affecting circumstances the consciences of the thoughtless, and administering instruction, counsel and consolation to the more serious, have known no bounds. In a place where scriptural instruction is forbidden and as far as possible hindered, the offer of the British and Foreign Bible Society to supply our Missionary with any greater number of Spanish New Testaments; and a like offer from the New York Prayer Book Society to supply Our Prayer Book in the Spanish Language - the best religious tract ever published or circulated in any language - opens a field of Gospel labor, only second to permission and power to preach the Gospel as St. Paul preached it.

Agencies for accomplishing these Ends.

It may almost literally be said we have two agencies and only one Agent.

A few friends deeply impressed with

the Value and importance of this Work, on occasion of two General Conventions have earnestly endeavored to enlist our Board of Missions or the Foreign Committee to take this Mission under their sheltering wing as they have Mexico and Haiti, but hitherto without success. For this they doubtless have good and sufficient reasons up to this time. The one good and sufficient reason, lack of funds. But to draw out somewhat a comparison between the two Missions amongst Spanish speaking people.—

The Mission to Cuba originated entirely from without and was purely humanitarian. The Mission to Mexico originated wholly from within. It began with Religious Men, Engrossed solely with concern for the souls of Men, that they and their children might be made wise unto Salvation.—

No one can doubt that this is a legitimate Foreign Missionary Work, deserving all the aid its Zealous and devoted friends can render. Aware of all this the Rev. Mr. Kinney has spent much of the Summer bringing the claims of his Mission before such parishes.—

chiefly in New England and Canada. as were willing to listen to him, - and in private interviews with several Gentlemen in New York and Brooklyn. who manifested interest in his work. the result of which, thus far, has been the following Memorial (See (A)) presented to the Presiding Bishop at his residence, and to which the above is his reply.

At a subsequent purposed Meeting he will recommend the formation of a Cuban Guild to carry out the views above expressed. —

Integrity and Efficiency of the Missionary.

The following letter. (See B) was addressed to the Presiding Bishop, and received by him on the day of the Meeting above mentioned by the Venerable Bishop of Maryland. It gives him pleasure hereby to express his concurrence in all the Bishop says, having of late had many opportunities of testing the justice of this testimony. —